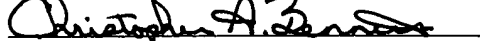


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: September 21, 2000

  
Christopher A. Bennett

**PATENT**  
38413.7

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Tsukasa YAMAMOTO et al. Serial No.: 09/221,656 Filing Date: December 23, 1998 For: A PRODUCTION SYSTEM FOR RETAIL GOODS AND A RAW MATERIAL ORDERING SYSTEM	Art Unit: 2768  Examiner: F. Poinvil	RECEIVED SEP 25 2000 TC 2700 MAIL ROOM
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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action dated March 21, 2000, or until September 21, 2000.

Enclosed is a Credit Card Payment Form for \$870.00 to pay the three-month extension fee in accordance with Rule 1.17(a)(3).

The Commissioner of Patents is authorized to charge any amount due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. **50-1353**. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: September 21, 2000

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher A. Bennett  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 46,710

**KEATING & BENNETT, LLP**  
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Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
Telephone: (213) 624-2500

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